



STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

MOLLY M. SPEARMAN
STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Superintendents

FROM: John R. Payne, Director
Office of Special Education Services

DATE: February 2, 2016

RE: American Printing House for the Blind Annual Census

This memorandum is to provide you notice of the annual census for students who are legally blind. The South Carolina Department of Education (SCDE), through a grant to the South Carolina School for the Deaf and the Blind (SCSDB), conducts an annual census of legally blind students in accordance with the requirements of *The Act to Promote the Education of the Blind*. Because of this census, funds are made available to the American Printing House (APH), which provides equipment and materials that are used in creating accessibility for South Carolina's legally blind students.

Your district special education director, or liaison for services provided to students who are legally blind, will receive notification and materials that will be needed to complete the annual census. This year, the census will be completed via an online submission. The due date for this submission is **March 1, 2016**. The census should be reflective of the number of legally blind students receiving services in your school district as of January 4, 2016.

In the upcoming weeks, our state's vision consultant, Marty McKenzie, or his designee from the SCSDB will provide your staff with the materials needed to complete this important census. We appreciate your and your staff's time in completing this census as it provides extensive benefits to our students who are blind.

In addition to this census, the SCDE and SCSDB are available to provide consultation, professional development, or technical assistance regarding educational services for students who are blind or visually impaired. If this need exists within your district, please contact Marty McKenzie at mmckenzie@scsdb.org or (803) 896-9787; or contact my office at (803) 734-8224.

Thank you again for your assistance with the annual APH Census as well as the services you provide to students with disabilities.